What is claimed is:

A method for determining criminal activity by an individual within a field of view of a video camera, said method comprising:

sampling the movements of an individual located within said field of view using said video camera to generate a video signal;

electronically comparing said video signal of said with known characteristics of movements that are indicative of individuals having a criminal intent;

determining the level of criminal intent of said individual, said determining step being dependent on said electronically comparing step; and

generating a signal indicating a predetermined level of criminal intent is present as determined by said determining step.

